

Spring, but who would have predicted that NATO member Turkey, a country that long enjoyed a strong military and economic relationship with Israel, would turn against its erstwhile ally with such ferocity? Turkish hostility towards Israel goes well beyond the purported settling of a score over the Gaza Flotilla incident. It appears calculated to establish Turkey's strategic dominance of the Eastern Mediterranean by putting pressure on the Israeli-American alliance. One important way for the United States to discourage this kind of adventurism in the region is to continue to affirm its unbreakable bond with the State of Israel.

TRIBUTE TO THE
MEDITERRANEAN QUARTERLY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Mediterranean Quarterly, a journal of global issues published by Duke University Press in the late in 1980s. Mediterranean Quarterly is edited by Dr. Nikolaos A. Stavrou (Professor Emeritus of International Affairs, Howard University), a true believer in intellectual honesty, professional integrity, and fair play. The Journal is unique in many ways, and has made its mark in the policymaking world and global academy.

Dr. Stavrou ensured that thinkers from all lit-
toral states as well as academic experts in the U.S. have an open and uncensored forum to present and debate ideas. Mediterranean Quarterly has no agenda to promote other than the search for truth without fear or favor. But more importantly, it has made a point to open its pages to prominent African leaders to address issues in true Mediterranean spirit of respect for human dignity.

Over the years, I had the privilege of joining a stellar list of contributors, among them former President Jimmy Carter, former UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the Presidents of Turkey and Croatia, President Salva Kiir of South Sudan, and a long list of academics, foreign ministers, prime ministers and prominent diplomats.

I consider it my distinct honor to have published on a wide range of issues, including Africa, the Cyprus crisis and other issues. The Mediterranean Quarterly is a forum for thinkers and not a place for waging an ideological campaign.

HONORING THE REVEREND
JOSEPH E. LOWERY

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Joseph E. Lowery, an irreplaceable organizer in the American Civil Rights Movement and a leader who marched with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to overturn discrimination in voting rights and other injustices, celebrates his 90th birthday today. It is only right that I honor this man who made my ascension possible.

Just 54 years ago, in a meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, Rev. Lowery helped form the Southern Christian Leadership Conference alongside Dr. King, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, and New Orleans' own Rev. Dr. Simmie Lee Harvey and Rev. Abraham Lincoln "A. L." Davis—among other civil rights leaders. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference, known as the SCLC, was largely known for its non-violent protests. It was Rev. Lowery himself who organized the 1965 Selma to Montgomery March that eventually led to the passage of the historic Voting Rights Act. You'll remember that the Voting Rights Act finally guaranteed Black Americans the right to vote—free from intimidation, poll taxes, and other rules and laws designed to disenfranchise us. Rev. Lowery served as the president of the SCLC from 1977–1997 and revitalized it through his outspoken nature and distinct leadership style.

Rev. Lowery continues to fight social injustice even today at the young age of 90. For his work, he's received numerous awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor; the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Phoenix Award; the Martin Luther King Center Peace Award; the NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award; and the Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award from the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Rev. Lowery has also received several honorary doctorates from colleges and universities including, Dillard University, Morehouse College, Alabama State University, University of Alabama in Huntsville, and Emory University.

While delivering the benediction at the 2009 presidential inauguration of President Obama, Rev. Lowery reminded us all "that in the complex arena of human relationships, we should make choices on the side of love, not hate; on the side of inclusion, not exclusion; and tolerance, not intolerance." It is evident that this principle has been a driving force in every area of Rev. Lowery's life for the last 90 years. His unwavering dedication to equality for all people has made this country a better place for people of all races and ethnicities.

As we celebrate the life of Rev. Lowery today, we must also pause to remember the legacy of another civil rights leader, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth. Rev. Shuttlesworth died yesterday at the age of 89 after fighting for racial equality alongside Rev. Lowery for more than 50 years. He was an American hero whose fight for civil rights is emblematic of the perseverance, compassion, and faith that make us American. He was a legend during the movement and time has only cemented his place in history as a champion of equality. He was beaten, threatened, and his family was attacked. Nonetheless, he never wavered from his commitment to American civil rights. My achievements have been possible because I stand on his shoulders, Rev. Lowery's shoulders, and those of other freedom fighters. Dr. King once referred to Rev. Shuttlesworth as "one of the nation's most courageous freedom fighters." It is because of this courage that his legacy will live on for many generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Rev. Joseph Lowery a happy and blessed 90th birthday. As Rev. Lowery once wrote of Dr. King, "To appropriately celebrate . . . we must honor both the man and the movement. To ennoble the man and ig-

nore the movement is to do injustice to both. We must not let the spirit of the movement be overcome with sentimental ceremonies that omit the sacramental nature of the struggle. Ceremonies end with the benediction while sacraments begin with the benediction. Ceremony is like putting a ring on her finger at the wedding. Sacrament is ringing her life with love and joy ever after."

CONGRATULATIONS TO BEN AND
JENNIFER MOORE FOR WINNING
TENNESSEE FARM BUREAU'S
OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ben and Jennifer Moore from the city of Dresden in Weakley County on winning the Tennessee Farm Bureau's Outstanding Young Farmer and Achievement Award this past July 23, 2011. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were selected over 20 excellent county contestants to win the state competition and have a chance to win national honors at the American Farm Bureau's convention early next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore farm over 3,400 acres including corn and soybeans and a number of specialty crops. Additionally, they pasture about 80 head cow/calf livestock, and manage a 4,000 sow operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore are also active in The Young Farmers & Ranchers program which promotes leadership skills for farmers ages 18–35. As members of the Program they share a common bond for the agricultural lifestyle, leadership development, and are dedicated to meeting the challenges of farming and ranching. Ben served as the YF&R state committee chairman, was a member of the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation's Board of Directors, and has held numerous county and leadership positions. Jennifer is a member of the Tennessee Pork Producers Association, and is active on YF&R committees and other community organizations. The Moore's dedication, service, and significant contributions to their community and agriculture should make all Tennesseans proud. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have three sons, Miller, Tate, and Tyler. I congratulate them all.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTH-
DAY OF REV. JOSEPH LOWERY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of the Reverend Joseph Lowery, one of the single most important leaders of the modern civil rights movement; and a close confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Reverend Lowery was born in Huntsville, Alabama on October 6th, 1921. He and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. formed the Southern Leadership Conference, which was the hub of the civil rights movement in the 1960's. In addition to being the co-founder of the SCLC, Rev.

Lowery is a co-founder of the Black Leadership Forum—a broad constellation of African-American faith and social justice groups dedicated to carrying on the legacy of Martin Luther King.

Rev. Lowery is a living legend who will remain in the hearts and minds of all of who have been so blessed and fortunate to know him, including his friends, family members, and colleagues in the struggle for human and civil rights. Reverend Lowery was clearly one of the most influential leaders of the civil rights movements. He is a humble and gracious man with a keen sense of humor. He kept so many of us in the civil rights movement motivated, energized, and hopeful regardless of the many serious obstacles we faced as a social justice movement.

Rev. Lowery is married to Evelyn Gibson Lowery, who in her own right is a committed and dedicated civil rights activist. We wish Rev. Lowery and his wife Evelyn Gibson Lowery many more years of happiness, good health, and blessings. America is a stronger, fairer, and more civilized nation because of the decades of work that Rev. Lowery devoted to the noble cause of liberty, freedom, and social justice for all Americans.

IN APPRECIATION OF ISRAEL'S 9/11 MEMORIAL

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary memorial built in Israel in honor of the victims of the September 11th attacks.

On the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks, hundreds gathered just outside of Jerusalem to dedicate the 9/11 Living Memorial. This memorial, commissioned and built by the Jewish National Fund-USA/Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael, was designed by Israeli artist Eliezer Weishoff. It depicts a beautiful 30 foot high bronze American flag which rests on a granite base partially composed of metal from the World Trade Center towers and features the name of every victim of the attack.

Honored guests included my colleague, Congressman HENRY WAXMAN, U.S. Ambassador Dan Shapiro, Former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, and my friend, Stan Chesley, President of the Jewish National Fund.

While those tragic events occurred here at home, it is important to remember that there were victims from more than 90 countries, including five Israeli citizens.

This memorial will act as an important reminder of the need to remain committed in the fight against terrorism, and why Israel continues to remain one of our strongest allies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Israel for this thoughtful memorial.

HONORING DR. SUNGBAE JU FOR HIS LIFELONG ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Sungbae Ju, for his exemplary public service and devotion to the performing arts.

Dr. Sungbae Ju is the President of both the Garden State Opera and The Figaro Group, and is an accomplished musician. He holds a Masters Degree from the prestigious Manhattan School of Music, a Doctoral Degree from the Yeshua Theological Seminary and an Honorary Doctor Degree from the Universidad Christiana De Bolivia. He has experienced unmatched levels of professional success, including performances at notable New York and New Jersey performances venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the New Jersey and Bergen Performing Arts Centers. He has also performed in operas including "The Barber of Seville" and "Rigoletto" with singers from the Metropolitan Opera.

Dr. Ju and his family are members of the New Jersey State Opera, and are widely renowned and respected for their numerous recitals to benefit worthy causes throughout the nation. Dr. Ju has always tried to use music as a tool for improving and developing communities. With that in mind, Dr. Ju and others formed the Garden State Opera, Inc., a non-profit organization that aims to unify the community with music in order to aid those in our global community who live without food, hope, human rights and with the threat of disease, terror, poverty and war.

In addition to the Garden State Opera, Dr. Ju and his family have volunteered their musical talents and services at over 130 events, including various holiday concerts and Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebrations at the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police, NJ State Police, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Federal Air Marshal Service in the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Labor Department, Bergen County Public Safety Institute, Honor Legion Police Department and for many Asian and Korean-American communities.

Dr. Ju is also involved with many other cultural organizations throughout Bergen County including his positions as Chairman of the Korean American Day in New Jersey, Event Chairman of Northern-Eastern Korean Festival at New Overpeck Park, and Board Member of the Multi-Cultural Committee in the Bergen County Sheriff's Department. Additionally, he has received a multitude of awards from Members of Congress, the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly, the Newark and New York divisions of the FBI, the DEA in New Jersey, the TSA, the Federal Air Marshall Service, the U.S. Labor Department, the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police, the Bergen County Police Chiefs Association, the Ambassador of Taiwan Consul General, and the Bergen County Public Safety Institute.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dr. Sungbae Ju, and thank him for his devotion to the performing arts, the Korean-American community, and the American community at large, both in the great State of New Jersey and across the Nation.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the tenth anniversary of the war with Afghanistan. For ten years our country, and the brave men and women who fight for us on the battlefield, have been mired in a seemingly unwinnable war in Afghanistan, a war that has resulted in tens of thousands of casualties, and the death of 1,723 American service members. More and more Americans are expressing a desire to end the war in Afghanistan. Recent polls have shown that 73% of Americans want to withdraw troops, and 66% of all veterans believe the war is not worth its cost. There is no better time than now, on the 10th anniversary of this war, to reevaluate the continued conflict, and to commit to bringing our troops home.

It is irresponsible to continue to spend over one hundred billion dollars a year on a war that Americans support less and less each day, especially as our country tries to fight its way out of the worst economic recession of our lifetimes. This is money that is desperately needed domestically, and would be better spent on fixing our deteriorating infrastructure and fixing our education system.

Our mission after September 11th 2001 was to dismantle the infrastructure of al-Qaeda and to bring Osama bin Laden to justice, and there is no denying that the current administration and our courageous men and women serving overseas have accomplished these goals. It is time to bring our troops home, reinvest in our nation, and let the Afghani people take responsibility for securing their own nation.

I believe the time to withdraw from Afghanistan is now, which is why I joined my colleagues from both sides of the aisle in support of H.R. 651, the United States-Afghanistan Status of Forces Agreement Act of 2011 which would establish a redeployment date for U.S. troops. I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress, the President, and commanders in our Armed Forces to press for a speedier end to this war. I yield back the balance of my time.

EQUAL JUSTICE FOR OUR MILITARY ACT OF 2011

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Equal Justice for Our Military Act of 2011—a bill that will give our servicemembers equal access to the United States Supreme Court.

We all know that when American men and women decide to serve their nation in the Armed Forces, they make many sacrifices—from lost time with their families to irreplaceable losses of lives and limbs.

However, most Americans are not aware that active-duty servicemembers also sacrifice one of the fundamental legal rights that all civilian Americans enjoy.